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nb  
11/27/01

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicant herein seeks to amend the above referenced application as shown below, prior to the first examination and action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

In the Title:

Please delete the title and substitute therefor:

--STREPTOCOCCUS EQUISIMILIS HYALURONAN/ SYNTHASE GENE AND  
EXPRESSION THEREOF IN BACILLUS SUBTILIS--.

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